

Organic Produce/Natural Food Shop

Whole Foods
30 W. Huron St.
312.932.9600

Vegetarian/Natural Café

Brett's Kitchen
223 W. Superior St.
312.664.6354

Leona's Restaurant and Pizzeria
646 N. Franklin St.
312.867.0101

Green Business/Service

Whole Foods
30 W. Huron St.
312.932.9600

Cultural Site

Mexico Cultural & Educational Institute of Chicago
702 N. Wells St.
312.255.1556

Asian House of Chicago
159 W. Kinzie St.
312.527.4848

Museum/Institution

Feltre School
22 W. Erie St.
312.255.1362
312.255.1378

Art Spot

Arms Akimbo gallery
(Focus on imported art and objects)
233 W. Erie St.
312.656.1968

Mexico Cultural & Educational Institute of Chicago
702 N. Wells St.
312.255.1556

Galeria Gala
708 N. Wells St.
312.640.0517
www.galeriagala.com

MG Gallery
676 N. Dearborn St.
312.867.7900
www.mggallerychicago.com

Ann Nathan Gallery
212 W. Superior St.
312.664.6622
www.annnathangallery.com

Zg Gallery
300 W. Superior St.
312.654.9900
www.zggallery.com

Zalla/Lieberman Gallery
325 W. Huron St.
312.944.1990
www.zallaliebermangallery.com

Gallery 415
415 N. La Salle Dr.
7th Fl, Ste. 700A
www.gallery415.com

Gallery 500 Wells
500 N. Wells St.
312.222.1880

Feltre School
22 W. Erie St.
312.255.1362

Akainyah Gallery
357 W. Erie St.

Melanee Cooper Gallery
740 N. Franklin St.
312.202.9305
www.melaneecoopergallery.com

World Music

Latin street dancing
544 N. La Salle Dr.
312.42.SALSA

Reuse Site

Pimlico Antiques Limited
500 N. Wells St.
312.245.9199
Antique and Art Restoration
207 W. Ohio St.
312.321.9155

Milvia Swan Antiques
149 W. Kinzie St.
312.527.4446

Tompkins and Robandt Antiques
158 W. Kinzie St.
312.645.9995

Asian House of Chicago
159 W. Kinzie St.
312.527.4848

Jay Robert's Antiques
220 W. Kinzie St.
312.222.0167

Designer Resale Of Chicago
658 N. Dearborn St.
312.440.1937

Flight Luggage and Repair
309 N. Chicago St.
312.664.2124

Caspian Oriental Rugs
700 N. La Salle St.
312.664.7576

Redevelopment Opportunity Site

349- 369B W. Superior St.
New Houses/Apts/Town homes

340 W. Superior St.
New condominiums

Abandoned Lot
On corner of Erie and Dearborn (even # side)

Empty Building (formerly Doc's River North)
661 N. Clark St.

Significant Organization

Gilda's Club
537 N. Wells St.
312.464.9900

Cook County College Teachers Union, Local
1600 AFT AFL-CIO
208 W. Kinzie St.
312.755.9400
www.ccctu.com

Carpenter's Local
750 N. Franklin St.
312.280.0230

Passport Visa Authentication
100 W. Erie St.
312.803.0098

St. Vincent Center
The Catholic Charities of the Arch Diocese of Chicago
721 N. La Salle Dr.
312.655.7700

Social/Political Resource

National Kidney Foundation
(prevention, education, funding for research & organ donor awareness)
215 W. Illinois, Ste. 1C
312-321-1500
www.kidney@nifi.org

Gilda's Club
537 N. Wells St.
312.464.9900

Carpenter's Local
750 N. Franklin St.
312.280.0230

Passport Visa Authentication
100 W. Erie St.
312.803.0098

St. Vincent Center
The Catholic Charities of the Arch Diocese of Chicago
721 N. La Salle Dr.
312.655.7700

Prevention First
720 N. Franklin, Ste. 500
312.988.4646
www.prevention.org

Alternative Health Resource

Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago
(It's a rehabilitation hospital for people with physical injuries)
307 W. Grand St.
312-467-1465
Lakeshore Athletic club
333 E. Ontario St.

Equanimity
(Yoga, Pilates, & Acupuncture Place)
650 N. Dearborn St. Suite 200
312.932.0002

Yoga Circle
401 W. Ontario St.
www.yogacircle.com.

Scientific Research Site

National Kidney Foundation
(prevention, education, funding for research & organ donor awareness)
215 W. Illinois, Ste. 1C
312-321-1500
www.kidney@nkfi.org

Chicago Med society
515 N. Dearborn St.
312.670.3646

Wildlife Rehabilitation/Info Center

City Cat Doctor
600 N. Wells St.
312.944.2287

Anti-Cruelty Society
510 N. LaSalle Dr.
312.644.8338
www.anticruelty.org

Anti cruelty society
157 W. Grand Ave.

Dog Run

Anti-Cruelty Society
510 N. LaSalle Dr.
312.644.8338
www.anticruelty.org

Anti cruelty society
157 W. Grand Ave.

Alternative Vehicle/ Fuel Station

Kozy's Cyclery / Sport in Goods, Cycling
219 W. Erie St.
312.226.1700

Park and Charge Facility

300 W. Superior St.
CPS Parking

Parking Garage
60 W. Erie St.

Parking Lot
(Corner of La Salle and Huron)
Pay in Advance

Blight Site

Abandoned Lot
On corner of Erie and Dearborn (even # side)

Empty Building
Corner of N. Clark St. & W. Erie St.
847.338.5100

Empty Building (formerly Doc's River North)
661 N. Clark St.

Abandoned Lot
(Corner of Dearborn and La Salle)

Air Pollution Source

Erie LaSalle Body Shop
148 W. Erie St.
312.337.3903
www.erielasalle.com

Astro Color Laboratories Inc.
61 W. Erie St.
312.280.5500

GS Cleaners and Tailoring
70 W. Huron St.
312.951.0295

Kathy's Cleaners
678 N. Dearborn St.
312.867.1200

Water Pollution Source

P&R Group
222 W. Hubbard St.
312.329.9600
Astro Color Laboratories Inc.
61 W. Erie St.
312.280.5500

GS Cleaners and Tailoring
70 W. Huron St.
60610
312.951.0295

Kathy's Cleaners
678 N. Dearborn St.
312.867.1200

Rogue Salon
24 W. Erie St.
312.863.7678

Van Cleef Salon Hair Studios
56 W. Huron St.
312.751.2456

Supercuts
33 W. Huron St.
312.649.0234

National Photo services
114 W. Illinois St. #4
312.644.5211

Toxic Chemical Storage

National Photo services
114 W. Illinois St. #4
312.644.5211

Eucalyptus (Body and Nails)
353A Chicago Ave.

Full Line-River North's Place
(Offset Printing House)
361 W. Chicago Ave.

Michael (Hair Salon)
365 W. Chicago Ave.

P&R Group
222 W. Hubbard St.
312.329.9600

Kinkos Copies
444 W. Wells St.
312.670.4460

Toxic Chemical Releases

Eucalyptus (Body and Nails)
353A Chicago Ave.

Full Line-River North's Place
(Offset Printing House)
361 W. Chicago Ave.

Michael (Hair Salon)
365 W. Chicago Ave.

Kinkos Copies
444 W. Wells St.
312.670.4460

Astro Color Laboratories Inc.
61 W. Erie St.
312.280.5500

GS Cleaners and Tailoring
70 W. Huron St.
312.951.0295

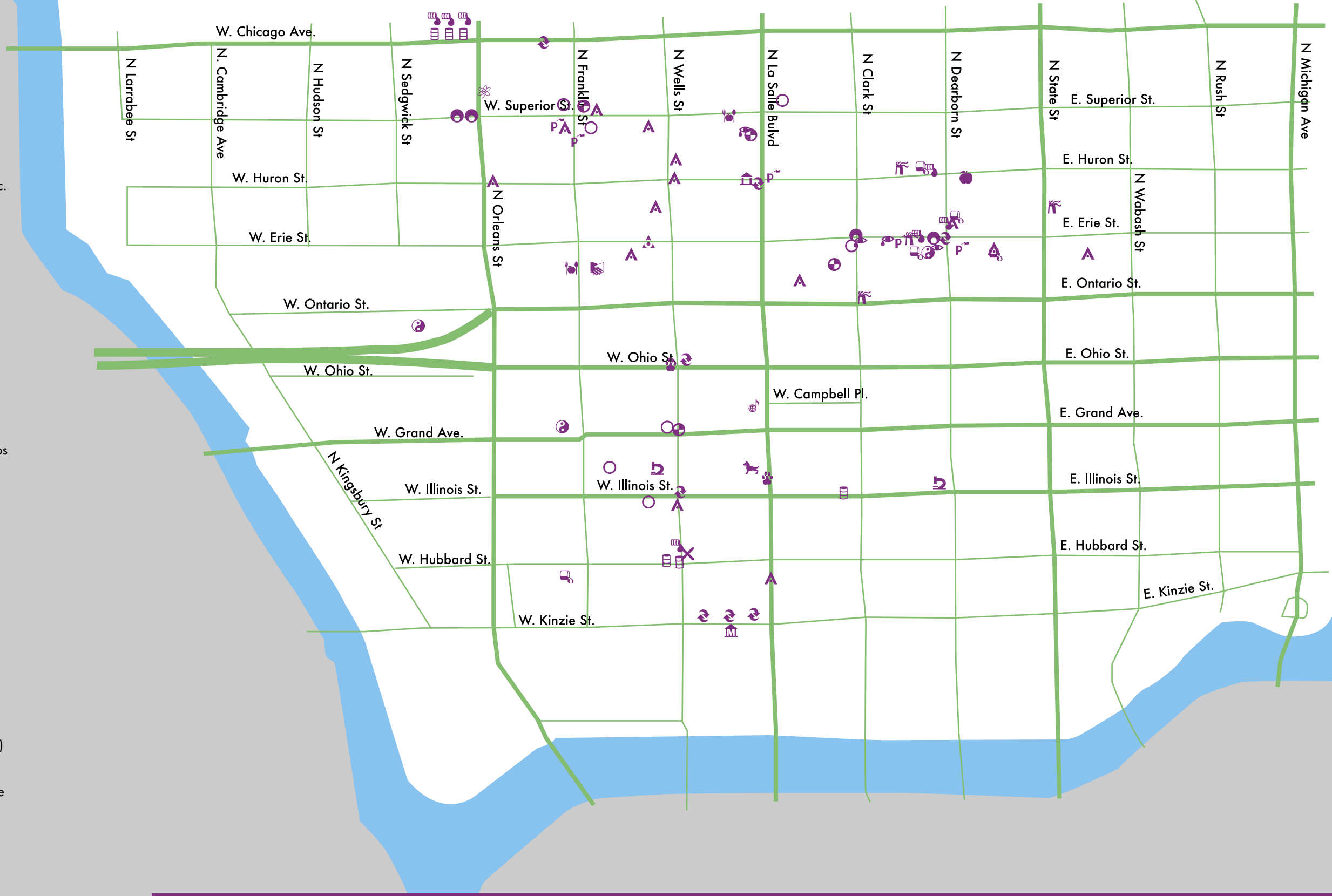
Kathy's Cleaners
678 N. Dearborn St.
312.867.1200

Hazardous Waste Generator

Kinkos Copies
444 W. Wells St.
312.670.4460

Nuclear Facilities and Waste

Panther II Transportation Sales 407
(transportation of nuclear/
chemical weapons and materials)



Economic Development

- Farmer's Market
- Organic Produce/Natural Food Shop
- Vegetarian/Natural Café
- Green Business/Service
- Strictly Green Store
- Eco-Conserving Products
- Fair Trade/Social Shop

Culture & Design

- Cultural Site
- Museum/Institution
- Urban Culture
- Art Spot
- World Music
- Historical Feature
- Traditional Way of Life
- Eco Design/Planning Feature
- Significant Building
- Shanty Town/Self-built Home
- Child Friendly Eco-Site
- Senior Friendly Site
- Eco-Spiritual Site

Renewable Resources

- Solar Energy Sites
- Wind Energy Site
- Renewable Technology Site
- Water Recycling System
- Bio-remediation Site
- Composting
- Reuse Site
- Re-mediated (cleaned up) Site
- Redevelopment Opportunity Site

Information

- Eco-Information Site
- Info Resources by Phone
- Info Resources On-Line
- Environmental Center
- Community Center
- Green Tour Available
- Eco-Tourist Destination
- Significant Organization
- Social/Political Resource
- Alternative Health Resource
- Scientific Research Site
- Pollution Monitor
- Protest Point

Nature: Fauna

- Bird and Wildlife Watching Site
- Significant Habitat
- Coastal Habitat
- Marine Habitat
- Amphibian Habitat
- Insect Watching
- Wildlife Rehabilitation/Info Center
- Zoo and Wildlife Center
- Duck Pond
- Farm Animals
- Dog Run
- Flyover Zone

Nature: Flora

- Public Forest/ Natural Area
- Parkland and Recreation Area
- Special Tree
- Spring Blossoms
- Autumn Leaves
- Bamboo Forest
- Shaded Boulevard
- Bio-Regional Site/ Indigenous Plants
- Wildlife Corridor/Greenways
- Garden
- Community Garden
- Special Community Garden
- Cleaning Area/Fishing

Nature Land and Water

- River-and Water-Front Park
- Wetlands
- Water Feature
- Climate and Currents
- Landform/Geological Feature
- Open space
- Wilderness Site/Info
- Camping
- Snow Activity Site
- Great View/ Scenic Vista
- Star-gazing Site
- Sunset Site

Mobility

- Bicycle Site
- On-Road Bike Paths/Bridge
- Separate Bike Path/Bridge

Infrastructure

- Secure Bike Parking
- Wheelchair Accessible
- Best Walks
- Pedestrian Zone
- Public Square/Car Free Zone
- Boat Launch Site
- Ferry
- Major Public Transportation Station
- Local Public Transportation Station
- Light Rail Transit
- Park and Ride Facility
- Alternative Vehicle/ Fuel Station
- Park and Charge Facility

Toxic Hot Spots & Pollution Sources

- Drinking Water Source
- Wastewater Treatment Facility
- Recycling Site
- Landfill
- Solid Waste Transfer Station
- Incinerator
- Energy Grid Generating Facility

Blight Site

- Blight Site
- Danger Zone
- Traffic Hazard Zone
- Noise Pollution Source
- Air Pollution Source
- Water Pollution Source
- Oil and Natural Gas Facility
- Oil Spill
- Underground Storage Tank
- Officially Listed Contaminated Site
- Toxic Chemical Storage
- Toxic Chemical Releases
- Hazardous Waste Generator
- Hazardous Waste Facility
- Waste Dump
- Mining Site
- Nuclear Facilities and Waste

Miscellaneous

- Green Maps Available Here
- Call First/Appointment Needed
- Special or Supporter's Site

RiverNorth



By the 1850's, industry in the region included; processed wood and grain products, lumber yards, tanneries, breweries and brickyards. One of three public markets, the North Market Hall, located on Market Street, (now Orleans) brought a large amount of commercial traffic to the area. Because of the thriving neighborhood and the significant amount of congestion, the Rush Street Bridge was created. It was the only bridge to span the Chicago River, thus linking the north side to the downtown areas of the city.

In 1854, due to health concerns, Chicago engineers decided to reverse the flow of the Chicago River. A bi-product of this feat made the transportation of goods from Chicago to other parts of the country more efficient. The invention of cooling systems in rail cars added to the meat processing and grain industry's success. Grain elevators began to appear along the rivers edge allowing for easier moving of commodities. Waste products which were formally dumped into the river were now being used for other purposes such as soap and margarine.



In 1950, African Americans comprised 31% of the total population in the River North area which increased 17 years later to 75%. From 1950 to 1959, 75 million dollars was spent on construction of town homes. Yet the population of the area between the years 1960 to 1990 dropped despite the increase in housing. Prior to 1970, the area consisted of a diversified population. La Salle Street acted as a barrier between the privileged east and the impoverished west.

Since the 1970s, the River North area witnessed dramatic changes. The factories closed and the warehouses were abandoned. Many derelict structures became trendy studio spaces for artists, as the art community flourished west of La Salle Street. As rents increased on the east-side, gallery owners moved to the less expensive warehouse district where the large studio spaces provided a haven for artists. Property owners were very sensitive to maintaining inexpensive rents for the gallery owners because they created a dynamic neighborhood. By the late 1980's, River North was known for having the second largest core of art galleries in the nation.



Originally named the Near North Side, River North was annexed to the city of Chicago in 1837. Its boundaries are the Chicago River to the south and west, Michigan Avenue to the east and Chicago Avenue to the North. The area was originally settled by the Potawatomi tribe of Native Americans and was developed by Jean Baptist du Sable, a French fur trader and several Jesuit Missionaries by the mid eighteenth century. By 1804, John Kinzie bought 103 acres, which included the River North area, and secured the creation of the Fort Dearborn military outpost, which encouraged the arrival of more settlers.

As the city grew, the River North area was the hub of industry due to its proximity to the Chicago River which played a critical role in the development of the region. The river facilitated population growth north of the downtown district. It provided a means of transportation to export products manufactured in the vicinity. One of the first national railroad export locations was established at the intersection of Kinzie and Wells Streets. This factory-based hub provided income for the French, Irish, German, Swedish and later, Italian immigrants. These colonists began creating small businesses that flourished, thus establishing a diverse blend of cultures which was the foundation of Chicago's ethnic background.

The city grew quickly, too fast for proper urban planning, thus when the infamous fire spread on October 7th and 8th in 1871, there were no safety precautions in place. The wooden structures were kindling for the ravenous fire which destroyed most of the city including the River North area. The debris from the fire was haphazardly pushed into Lake Michigan while the construction of the second city began. On July 10, 1886 a man by the name of

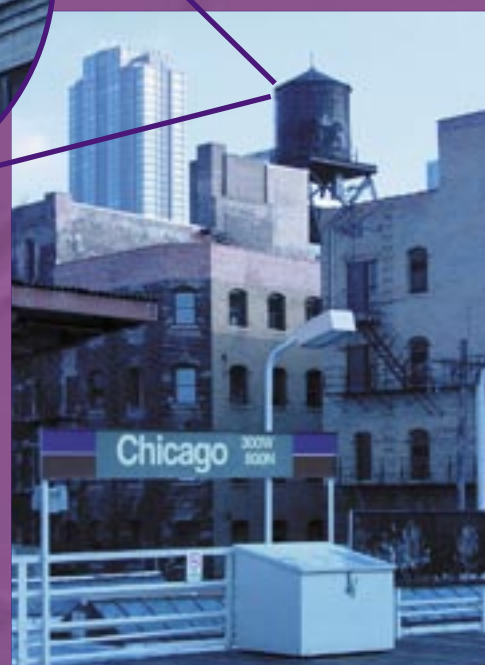
George Streeter anchored his boat to the thick debris and set up housekeeping in River North. Streeter thought himself a settler while the city complained about him being a squatter. Legal battles ensued, yet no one laid claim to the rubble-peninsula of land. Streeter demanded the land be an independent district of Illinois which drove the prices up, thus the area near Michigan Avenue, known at the time as Pine Street, became one of the most expensive areas of the city. The reconstruction of Chicago after the fire allowed many entrepreneurs to develop their ideas. The McCormick family built several mansions in the area east of the River North neighborhood, while part of the River North area was known as "Little Hell". "Little Hell" was comprised mostly of industrial slums, sweatshops, shanties, and poor immigrants. Gangs ran rampant in the area which created the image of terror, thus the nick-name "terror district" was established. An Italian-Swedish conflict led to the displacement of the Swedish to areas further north. However, as time passed, the River North area was redeveloped and many residents turned towards the neighborhood for their success.

In 1921, the Wrigley Building was built just over the river on Michigan Avenue. This was the first skyscraper built north of the river and became the stimulus for further expansion, thus the Michigan Avenue Bridge was constructed along with countless new buildings and transportation hubs. In 1923 the price of a storefront was \$3,500 dollars, the same price as the whole Kinzie family estate which was sold a hundred years earlier. All building stopped after the stock market crash until 1941 when the Works Progress Administration began the demolition of all dilapidated two to three-story wooden buildings, thus began the era of high-rise construction.

As River North got trendier and more expensive, the poor were displaced. In 1990, 50% of the population was between 20-44 years of age and 79% had a high school diploma. More than 57% had an income greater than \$49,999 dollars annually compared to 1980, when only 45% earned more than \$29,999 dollar per year. In 1960, the population was 75,509 compared to present day figures at 62,842 while the number of housing units has increased to more than 7000. Currently the majority of the River North residents are young and single or married child-less couples. Only 14% of the current population are under 18, whereas 30 years ago this number was doubled.

As River North reached SoHo status in the eighties and tourists began to migrate to the city, Disney-like attractions infiltrated the neighborhood. Rock-n-Roll McDonalds (the largest grossing McDonalds in the nation), Hard Rock Café, Rainforest Café along with huge superstores like American Girl Place and an eight-story Sportmart created a place for tourists to spend their time and money. In the late eighties, as commerce overtook much of the area, plans to confine high rises to the riverside were implemented, as well as initiatives to clean up the sidewalks and to build green areas and parks.

Today the area remains as diverse as ever. The Merchandise Mart and Apparel Center is major anchor for the interior design and fashion design industry in Chicago and the Midwest. The large shopping hub of the city which runs along Michigan Avenue brings millions of dollars annually to the city coffers. The art galleries sustain an important role as well as the abundance of other small businesses. The previous cultural division created by La Salle Street is still evident and is seen in the facades of factories and warehouses although the interiors are now redesigned to accommodate fashionable businesses or residences. The east-side of the region includes newer commercial businesses and high rises, while the west-side remains filled with historic structures. These differences are testimony to the diverse and turbulent history of the neighborhood, and to the progress it has experienced throughout its evolution.



Map Makers

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- Min-ki Kim
- Jaee Hee Lee
- SunYoung Lee
- Jennifer Mango
- Heidi Moran
- Hyo Paik
- Leslie Park
- Tilliski Ramey
- HaeRyung Ro
- Amanda Stephens
- Evan Thomas
- Kiva VanDerGeest
- Jessica Very
- Mei Wang
- Jaime Yuhas

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